

October 30, 1950.

Dr. Norman T. J. Bailey,
Department of Human Ecology,
University of Cambridge,
England.

Dear Dr. Bailey:

Thank you very much for having pointed out the typographical error in my 1947 Genetics paper. The second number in the first line should read 303, not 203, as you were the first to discern. The original tabulations show 303.

Your other point is not so easily nor satisfactorily explained. There does seem to be an excess of multiple crossovers (see for example table 6 where V_6 is also segregating), although not so many as to obscure the linkage arrangements. Cavalli and Newcombe have observed the same thing, and the last-named has a paper in press describing "negative interference" in these crosses. For my part, I don't pretend to understand it, but I have expounded my views at great length to Cavalli on this subject, and suggest that you save me the labor of repetition by consulting him. My recent work on segregations from heterozygotes suggests that recombination may involve phenomena more complicated than the simple model used in 1947, although I feel that the basic assumptions of linear order can still be justified.

Cavalli can give just the same sort of data as I could, judging from his correspondence, and I don't think that I could help you beyond what he can do in this respect. A number of stocks have been found which give drastically different linkage relationships from those reported in 1947, and I have strong doubts as to the structural homozygosity of the segregating zygotes in any of these crosses; at least, I can scarcely tell you ~~know~~ which are standard and which aberrant.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg,
Associate Professor of Genetics